

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

5 A tripod support apparatus comprises an open collar having three leg receivers extending  
outwardly from the collar in spaced apart positions. Each of three support legs is removably  
engaged with one of the leg receivers at an upper end, with the support legs depending  
downwardly from the leg receivers, thereby supporting the open collar at a desired position  
above a support surface. A leg brace assembly engages the support legs medially so as to  
brace the support legs in a downwardly divergent stance. With the legs disengaged from the  
10 collar, the brace assembly is able to be folded to allow the three legs to assume positions in a  
common plane for shipping, storage and improved portability.